

COUNTRY 10

Poland and German-occupied Germany

REPORT NO

TOPIC Polish Troops in Ciechanow and Lauenburg

EVALUATION

DATE OF CONT

25X1A

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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Ciechanow.

1. Prior to the beginning of February 1951, the barracks installation on the northeastern perimeter of Ciechanow (R 53/K 76), on the east side of the highway to Przasnysz (R 54/K 97), was occupied by Polish infantry troops. The installation had quartered a Polish cavalry regiment prior to World War II. Four of its buildings were destroyed during the war, while the remaining buildings, constructed of red bricks, were in good condition. The troops observed there prior to February 1951 were in active service and wore khaki uniforms and, when off-duty, round visor-type caps with a red band. [redacted] unable to determine the strength of the infantry unit, but stated [redacted] saw six horse-drawn field kitchens with the unit leaving for field training. No heavy weapons or motor vehicles were observed in the billeting area. Supply hauls were effected by members of the unit on horse-drawn vehicles. When troops from the installation marched out, they were always preceded by officers on horseback. The unit held infantry field training in the area north and northwest of Przedwojewo (R 53/K 76). Source noticed over a period of three years that NCOs received special training in the billeting area. Local residents stated that the superior headquarters for the troops in Ciechanow was located in another undetermined town.
2. Since the beginning of 1950, a fully motorized KBW (Internal Security) unit of not less than 100 men has been quartered in the former German draft board building near the cloister church in the southern sector of Ciechanow. No heavy weapons were noticed with the unit whose troops were serving their term of active duty. The KBW troops wore uniforms of the same color as those of the Polish Army units. The KBW unit in Ciechanow apparently had the mission of maintaining safety in the local area. This unit was repeatedly observed leaving the post in a northeasterly direction and returning after up to three days. Source learned that partisans were operating in the Ciechanow-Przasnysz-Ostroleka (R 54/F 38) area, but became substantially less active after KBW troops were stationed in the area. *
3. The Polish recruiting office which had jurisdiction in the county of

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Ciechanow was located in a building on the road to Plonsk (R 53/K 53).

4. The county headquarters of the UB (Security Police) was located in a building near the seat of the county administration in the center of Ciechanow. The county headquarters of the MO (Militia) was located on Kosciuszki Square, formerly Gruen Platz. No Soviet troop units or officers were located in Ciechanow. No barracks installations other than that described above were observed at the post.

Lauenburg.

5. At the beginning of 1951, the barracks installation in the southern sector of Lauenburg (P 55/H 40), on the south side of the road to Stolp (P 55/H 03), was occupied by Polish troops, whom source believed to be infantrymen. No military motor vehicles or heavy weapons were noticed in the Lauenburg area in 1950. Soviet troops had been withdrawn from Lauenburg as early as 1948.

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Comment. Probably a component of the KBW troops known to be stationed in Przasnysz. Previous reports stated that these troops were committed against partisans.

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